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# PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

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## UNITED STATES

REPORTS TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE

### PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK

#### INFECTED GROUND SQUIRRELS

During the week ended December 31, 1910, the finding of 2 plague-infected ground squirrels was reported. The squirrels were found in Alameda County, Cal., 1 on December 21 at G. Enos ranch,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Haywards, and 1 December 22 at M. J. Harlan ranch,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Haywards.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF POISON

In connection with the making of a squirrel-free zone around the cities in California on San Francisco Bay, 205 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended December 31, 1910.

#### RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION

Place	Date of last case of human plague	Date of last case of rat plague	Date of last case of squirrel plague	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco .....	Jan. 30, 1908.....	Oct. 23, 1908.....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Oct. 26, 1909.....	Dec. 1, 1908.....	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907.....	None recorded.....	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908.....	None.....	Aug. 21, 1908.....	1 squirrel.
Counties—				
Alameda (exclusive of the city of Oakland).	Sept. 26, 1909.....	Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.	Dec. 22, 1910.....	87 squirrels.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1908.....	None.....	Sept. 10, 1910.....	1 wood rat.
Merced.....	None recorded.....	do.....	June 6, 1910.....	247 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	do.....	2 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910.....	do.....	July 11, 1910.....	4 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	None recorded.....	do.....	Nov. 15, 1910.....	20 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910.....	9 squirrels.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910.....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910.....	1 squirrel.
Santa Cruz.....	None recorded.....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910.....	23 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	May 17, 1910.....	3 squirrels.
Washington:				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907.....	Feb. 8, 1910.....	None.....	5 squirrels.
				22 rats.

## Rats Collected and Examined for Plague Infection

Place	Week ended—	Found dead	Total collected	Examined	Found infected
<b>California:</b>					
Cities—					
Berkeley.....	Dec. 31	0	<sup>1</sup> 62	36	.....
Oakland.....	do.....	45	<sup>2</sup> 507	387	.....
San Francisco.....	do.....	20	<sup>3</sup> 1,589	1,148	.....
Counties—					
San Joaquin.....	do.....	0	<sup>4</sup> 66	51	.....
<b>Washington:</b>					
Cities—					
Seattle.....	Dec. 1-31	0	3,683	3,291	.....
Total.....		65	5,907	4,913	.....

<sup>1</sup> Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 36, *Mus musculus* 26.<sup>2</sup> Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 430, *Mus rattus* 1, *Mus musculus* 75, *Mus alexandrinus* 1.<sup>3</sup> Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 907, *Mus rattus* 195, *Mus musculus* 351, *Mus alexandrinus* 136.<sup>4</sup> Identified, *Mus musculus* 66.

## Squirrels Collected and Examined for Plague Infection

Place	Week ended—	Trapped and shot	Found dead	Examined	Found infected
<b>California:</b>					
Counties—					
Alameda.....	Dec. 31	253	1	254	2
Fresno.....	do.....	26	.....	26	.....
Mariposa.....	do.....	27	.....	27	.....
Merced.....	do.....	82	.....	82	.....
Monterey.....	do.....	193	.....	193	.....
San Joaquin.....	do.....	46	3	49	.....
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	109	.....	109	.....
Santa Clara.....	do.....	66	.....	66	.....
Stanislaus.....	do.....	6	.....	6	.....
Total.....		808	4	812	2

## Other Animals Collected and Examined

Place	Week ended—	Animals collected	Examined	Found infected
<b>California:</b>				
Counties—				
Mariposa.....	Dec. 31	1 kangaroo rat....	1	.....
Total.....			1	.....

## SMALLPOX IN THE UNITED STATES

In the following tables the States indicated by an asterisk are those from which reports of smallpox are received only from certain city, and in some cases county, boards of health. In these States, therefore, the recorded cases and deaths should not be taken as showing the general prevalence of the disease. In the States not marked by an asterisk the reports are received monthly from the State boards of health and include all cases reported throughout the State.